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Menzel
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HISTORY

OF THE LATE

Expedition to Egypt,

*UNDER THE COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL
SIR RALPH ABERCROMBIE,*

From the Fleet's departure from England, till their Arrival in Egypt; with an exact Account of all the Islands and Towns they touched at on their Voyage, with the Customs, Manners, and Religion of the Inhabitants,—A particular Account of the Landing of the Army, with the different Engagements that were fought there, until the Capitulation of Alexandria—Also a short History of the Customs and Manners of the Egyptians, with the Fertility of the Land on the Banks of the River Nile.—To which is added an Appendix, giving a short Description of Rhodes, and several Cities in Egypt where the Army was at.

By JAMES MENZIES,
WHO WAS ON THE EXPEDITION.

GLASGOW:

Printed by E. Miller, for James Menzies,
the Author's Father.—1803.

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INTRODUCTION.

I HAVE sometimes heard it disputed in conversation, whether it be more laudable, or desirable, that a man should think too highly, or too meanly, of himself. It is on all hands agreed to be best, that he should think rightly ; but since a fallible being will always make some deviations from exact rectitude, it is not wholly useless to enquire which is the safest side to incline to.

The prejudices of mankind seem to favour him who errs by undervaluing his own powers ; he is considered as a modest and harmless member of society, not likely to break the peace by competition, to endeavour

Menzies!
BLAP. BOX I

after such splendour of reputation as may dim the lustre of others, or to interrupt any in the enjoyment of themselves; he is no man's rival, and therefore may be every man's friend.

It must be confessed, that self-love may dispose us to decide too hastily in our own favour; but who is hurt by the mistake? If we are incited by this vain opinion to attempt more than we can perform, ours is the labour, and ours is the disgrace. Because he that hath no hopes of success, will make no attempts; and where nothing is attempted, nothing will be done. Every man should, therefore, endeavour to maintain in himself a favourable opinion of the powers of the human mind; which are perhaps in every man greater than they appear, and might by diligent cultivation, be exalted to a degree beyond what their possessor presumes to believe.

There is scarce any man but has found himself able, at the instigation of necessity, to do what in a state of leisure and deliberation he would have concluded impossible; and some of our species have signified themselves by such achievements, as prove that there are few things above human hope.

The author of the following sheets did not write them with a view ever to bring them before the impartial eye of a critising public, but wrote them merely for his own amusement to pass the time away when at sea, (and during his watch below) and even while encountering with all the dire calamities of disease and war, during seven months encampment on the sands of Egypt.

He does not mean, in this small treatise, to throw any new light to the world, by giving any philosophical reasons of the rise and fall of the river Nile, &c. he leaves that to more learned authors. All that is meant, in the following sheets, is to give a minute account of the expedition to Egypt, from their sailing from England, till the capitulation of Alexandria; likewise a description of the inhabitants and their manners, in all the different islands where he had the pleasure of visiting, in the Mediterranean, with an exact account of all the general engagements which were fought in Egypt, likewise the general orders that were, from time to time, issued out during the campaign; and to conclude, by giving a candid account of the inhabitants and country on the ever verdant banks of the river Nile. But if it does not

meet with the approbation of a candid public, he will rest satisfied if, by chance, it falls into the hands of any of his brother sufferers, who has experienced all the fatigues as he did, that even they will allow that he has not wrote by hearsay, but will acknowledge that his accounts are just.

Although he has lost his time in publishing it, and very near his health by the expedition, he has this one consolation, that he was doing it in behalf of his king and country, and under the auspices of his God.

TO THE SUBSCRIBERS.

T H E reason of the following Journal not being sooner printed, was owing to the Author's long indisposition, which terminated in a consumption, of which he died on the 26th of December last. It is now published by his Father, who has added a short Appendix to it, giving a short description of several cities in Egypt, &c. which he hopes will be entertaining to the reader. The most of the Appendix is collected from Nieubuhr's travels in 1761 through that country.

KELVIN DOCK, 13th April, 1803.

HISTORY

OF THE LATE

EXPEDITION TO EGYPT, &c.

JOURNAL.

UPON Thursday the 5th day of August, 1800, his majesty's ship *Trusty*, by a signal from the admiral, unmoored and got under weigh, having under convoy the *Dictator* and *Delft* of 64 guns, the *Astræa* frigate, with the *Fury* and *Tartar* bomb ships; the wind being fair, we soon hove out of sight of Spithead, and in less than two hours saw the *Tigress* gun vessel bring too a galliot off Berryhead. Some of our convoy being several leagues behind, on account of their not getting under weigh in time, having had some officers on shore, we were obliged to lay too till they came up, and in an hour after made the signal for the convoy to make sail. Nothing of importance, worthy of any notice, happened, but the weather exceeding fine, till the 11th instant, when we came to anchor in the Cove of Cork.

Here we lay till such time as we compleated our watering, and done any useful thing that was necessary to be done in the ship. The officers and ship's company not knowing where we were bound for, nor even for what intention we were lying at the Cove: but as time puts an end to all things, so it did to our conjectures; for upon the 17th of August we, by an order from Admiral Kingsmill, embarked five companies of the 3d regiment of Guards on board, commanded by Colonel Grovesnor; the rest of the brigade went on board of the different ships of our convoy; likewise a party of Homspech's rifle corps were embarked at the same time on board of transports which had been prepared for them.

At this time it was currently reported, that we were only bound for the coast of France; but as this does not concern, in a particular manner our present narrative, I shall, for brevity sake, pass on to matters of greater consequence, by mentioning such circumstances as may be either useful or entertaining to the reader. Upon the 20th of August we made the signal for our convoy to get under weigh; and in the afternoon came out with a fresh breeze, having on board a French pilot. Next day it blowing very fresh, we were obliged to take one of the transports with the Hessians in tow, on account of her not being able to keep up with the rest of the ships. We continued our course for the coast of France, and upon the 24th saw the isle of Howat;

a small uninhabited island near the entrance into the bay of Quiberon. In the evening when we made land, we were obliged to lay too all that night till next morning, when we spoke the cutter Dolly, and the captain of our ship expressed a wish for her commander to take in the squadron into the bay of Quiberon, as he knew that coast; but in reply he informed us, that he was then bound with orders for Earl St. Vincent, (who then commanded the Channel fleet) and upon that account he could by no means delay, but informed us that Rear Admiral Warren had sailed from the bay upon Friday morning last, with the troops. At two o'clock saw a strange sail lying the bay, which proved to be the Canada of 74 guns, waiting for our arrival with orders.

Came to anchor that night, and next morning the Canada fired a gun as a signal for sailing, and we immediately got under weigh, steering for the Spanish coast. The weather at this season was very fine and agreeable, not being too warm or sultry. On the 27th, in the evening, joined the fleet at the mouth of the bay of Ferrol.

This town lies in the province of Galicia, which is the most maritime of all the Spanish provinces on that coast. The air is temperate, but the inland parts are cold and damp. The soil produces little corn, but there are excellent pastures, and plenty of wine, lemons and flax; and the coast abounds with plenty of fish of the first quality.

The fleet under the command of Admiral Warren had arrived before Ferrol, on the 25th, when a landing was immediately intended, with a view of taking the town by surprise. The disembarkation was effected, without opposition, in a small bay near Cape Prior. The reserve, followed by the other troops as they landed, immediately ascended a ridge of hills adjoining to the bay: just as they had gained the summit, the rifle corps fell in with a party of the enemy, which they drove back. At day break the following morning, a considerable body of the enemy were driven back by Lord Cavan's brigade, supported by some other troops, so that they remained in complete possession of the heights which overlook the town and harbour of Ferrol. Lieutenant General J. Pultney having minutely considered this affair, came to the determination of reembarking the troops, which was effected the same evening in good order, and without any loss. The name of the plain where the landing was accomplished, is called by the Spaniards *Elaya de Dominos*.

Lay off and on all night, and next morning the whole fleet made sail, the weather being very fine, sailing close in with the Spanish shore, and upon the 29th instant came to anchor in Vigo Bay. The entrance into it is narrow, but when you are in there is plenty of anchorage ground, and is very beautiful, being surrounded on both sides by a large ridge of hills. At the further end of the Bay you

can see the town of Vigo, protected by a strong battery: here we could discern several ships at anchor, (one of them proved to be a French privateer ready for sea) close by the town.

In the afternoon an order was given out for the boats, from the different ships of the fleet, to be ready at nine o'clock, and commanded by lieutenants who had volunteered their services, under the direction of Lieutenant Burke of the *Renown*. About half an hour past twelve o'clock, they attacked the French privateer with the greatest bravery, meeting with desperate resistance, her commander having laid the hatches over to prevent the crew from giving way, and cheered as the boats approached; but notwithstanding their determined opposition, she was carried in fifteen minutes. Lieutenant Burke was severely wounded, but by the gallant behaviour of the other officers, they bowled her out with much coolness, through the fire of the enemy's batteries: the master of the privateer was mortally wounded. The privateer is a very fine ship, named *La Guipe* of Bourdeaux, with a flush deck, 300 tons, pierced for 22 guns, carrying 18 nine pounders, and 161 men, commanded by Citizen Dupan, stored and provisioned in the completest manner for four months. She had 23 killed and 40 wounded. Our loss was trifling in comparison, having 4 men killed and 24 wounded.

Nothing of any particular notice happened for two or three days, only sent some of the women

belonging to the Guards, attended by an escort, to wash at the foot of the hills, just immediately opposite the ship, and where there were no inhabitants.

On the 6th of September we received orders for sailing, but the wind proved unfavourable. This day it began to blow very hard, attended with heavy showers of rain, insomuch that the fleet was in danger of driving from their moorings. It continued to blow without intermission, when unfortunately the Stag frigate struck against a rock, and drove in her bottom, and immediately a signal was hoisted for all the boats in the fleet to attend and give assistance, and she became in a few minutes in such a lamentable state, that the most of the men left her, and went on shore: however, the boats conveyed all the men on board of different ships, and all other articles they could bring in safety. The captain, after consulting with the admiral, seeing it impossible she could ever get off, and not willing that the Spaniards should get the least article of her stores, they agreed to blow her up, and accordingly they set fire to her about six o'clock in the evening, and in a short time after the flames began to ascend to her quarter-deck, and as her guns were loaded, they went as soon as they became hot. She continued burning with great impetuosity, till about half an hour past ten at night, when her magazine took fire and blew up: the explosion was great and awful, but it did no harm,

thank God, to any of our fleet. The gale continued till next morning, when the wreck of the Stag totally disappeared.

We remained in this bay till the 9th instant, when the fleet weighed anchor and set sail, under convoy of the Ajax of 80 guns, with a fine breeze, continuing our course towards the Gut of Gibraltar. Next day our admiral, with most of the ships of the line, parted company. Nothing of any importance occurred for several days, and on the 15th we arrived close in with Cape St. Vincent. Here is a large rock which projects into the sea, and on the top there is monastery. It being towards the close of the evening, we could discern some of their monks, or friars, with their gowns on, walking round the ramparts. From its natural and artificial strength, it had the appearance of being impregnable. Same evening spoke the Dragon of 74 guns, returning from a cruise off Cadiz. 16th, 17th and 18th very little wind. The weather being exceedingly fine, saw round the ship plenty of dolphins of a most beautiful appearance. They are very shy, and some of the ship's company attempted repeatedly to strike them with a harpoon, but their endeavours were fruitless.

On the morning of the 19th, a breeze sprung up, when the fleet made all sail; and about three o'clock in the afternoon we came near the Barbary shore, and at seven o'clock past Apes' Hill. This hill stands almost at the mouth of the Gut; I saw no

batteries on it, nor any inhabitants, but abundance of monkeys, which I suppose was the reason of its getting that name. At eleven o'clock we came to anchor in Gibraltar Bay. Next morning we found lying there the Floudroyant with Lord Keith's flag on board, and some other ships of war. Received orders to proceed immediately for Tetuan Bay to water, and at four o'clock in the afternoon we set sail, and lay too all night, and next day about two o'clock dropt our anchor in Tetuan Bay.

The town of Tetuan lies about three miles from the bay; but it being built upon the rise of a hill, you can see it perfectly. The houses are all built of beautiful white stone, and the streets are regular. It lies in the province of Fez in Morocco. The air of this province is temperate and salubrious, and the face of the country towards the south and west, is rough and mountainous, but the soil fertile, producing citrons, lemons, oranges, almonds, figs, raisins, olives, sugar, honey, flax, cotton, &c. and plenty of corn. The men are of a swarthy complexion; though there are many of good features, and of a fair complexion. They are in general well built, strong limbed, active, laborious, and patient under fatigue. The women are remarkable for fine eyes, and some of them have very beautiful skins. Went ashore here to water. The inhabitants are very fond of traffic, as they will give you plenty of grapes or oranges for an old knife or razor; and are so fond of gunpowder, that they will

give you any kind of fruits they have for it. The dress of the Moors consists merely of a large shirt, which reaches from the neck to their ankles; it draws round the waist, and the most part of them wear drawers, with a turban.

Having finished our watering here, we remained waiting for orders; and upon the 27th we unmoored the ship, and put to sea, cruising between this bay and Gibraltar, the wind not favourable, but the weather fine. We continued sailing for two or three days, when we were hailed by Captain Cochrane of the Ajax, who ordered us, with the rest of the convoy, to make the best of our way for Tetuan Bay. Came to anchor upon the 30th of September, and lay there till October 2d, when we were joined by the Waafamare of 64 guns, having on board the 42d regiment from Minorca. Next day received orders to set sail, and on the following morning came through the Gut of Gibraltar, in company with the fleet, and was there joined by General Sir Ralph Abercrombie and Admiral Keith, with several gun boats from Gibraltar.

On the 4th we arrived in sight of Cadiz, and came too, having been joined by Sir R. Bickerton and his Squadron. The general plan of disembarkation was, that upon the morning of the 6th, the first brigade, consisting of 5000 men, are to land near Rota. The ships' launches to be armed as gun boats, and the rest of the army were to land between St. Lucar and Cadiz, and after taking these

places, to take the fort of St. Catherine, by which the fleet would be enabled to get to the north-west side of the bay, and co-operate with the army.

Upon Monday the 6th of October the signal was made for debarkation, and 3000 soldiers got into the boats for that purpose; but when the general saw that the boats were not competent to take a greater number at one time, conceiving that they were not equal to the object to be accomplished, and the Spaniards having sent out three flags of truce to General Abercrombie and Lord Keith, the undertaking was relinquished, and the troops ordered on board of their respective ships: the Spaniards fired guns, at a minute's interval, along the coast to give the alarm.

Having all got on board on the 7th, we received orders to weigh anchor and proceed to sea, which was soon accomplished by the whole fleet, which consisted of nearly 158 sail. Came through the Gut again, with a fair wind, (Lord Keith having gone into Gibraltar) and by orders received we again came to anchor in Tetuan Bay. During our stay in this bay we experienced a very strong gale of wind, which drove some of the ships of the convoy from their moorings, but luckily no damage of any consequence happened. It would be of little consequence to the reader to know all the trivial circumstances which happened, during our cruise off Tetuan, and between Tangiers and Gibraltar; let it suffice to say, that nothing of im-

portance happened. While waiting for orders from Britain, some of the officers belonging to the Guards got permission to go to Gibraltar, to purchase fresh provisions. On their return they reported that almost every thing sold very dear, especially sheep, as none could be purchased under L.3. At this time we were at anchor in the bay of Tangiers in Barbary. The inhabitants here are much the same in their persons, manners and customs, as at Tetuan, it being in the same province. This coast abounds with fish of the most delicious kinds, and in great plenty.

On the morning of the 27th, a signal was hoisted from the Ajax for the convoy to get under way, but the wind shifting it was impossible for us to go through the Gut. We kept cruising here, off and on, till the 27th, when with a fair wind we came through the Gut, and past Gibraltar, having received orders to proceed again to Tetuan Bay, where we dropt anchor on the 28th. The soldiers on board the ships were all in good spirits, and anxious to know their place of destination. Here we again began to complete our watering.

As it is generally known, that the Atlantic sea runs constantly into the Mediterranean, through the Gut of Gibraltar. While in this bay we could observe the rise and fall of the tide; because the tide rises higher in bays and rivers than in the open sea. It is occasioned by its striking against the contracting banks of bays and rivers, which accumu-

late the waters, and causes it to rise higher than in the open sea.

The scurvy beginning to appear in different ships in the fleet, great precaution was taken, in order to prevent its baneful effects. Lord Keith immediately gave orders for the fleet to receive fresh beef, which was amply supplied from Barbary. Here we got fresh soup, with plenty of pumpkins boiled in it; and to prevent any epidemic disorder from infesting the fleet, every man was served out with two oranges, and the same number of lemons, each day; so that by care and precaution, in a little time the progress of the disease was stopped.

About this time Lieutenant General Pultney left us with his army, destined, as it was then supposed, for Portugal, and our fleet under General Abercrombie, for the Mediterranean. Lay here at anchor waiting for further orders, when upon the 4th of November Lord Keith arrived here in the *Foudroyant*. Orders were received for the fleet to sail in two divisions, one for Minorca, and the other for Malta.

On the 8th of November our admiral hoisted a signal for the fleet to get under way, and in less than two hours the whole ships were under sail, the men on board being very happy at leaving Tetuan, where they had been so long doing no service; and likewise it gave them hopes of their soon knowing their destination. Set all sail, the weather fine and moderate, steering up the Mediterranean.

On the 14th we came to anchor in Minorca, of which island I will give a particular account of, it being an island where his majesty's troops has long been garrisoned in. The island of Minorca, so called from being the lesser of the Balearick isles, is situated to the eastward of Majorca, from which it is distant only 14 miles, and contains 340 square miles. Its port is one of the finest in the world, which consideration chiefly induced the English to make themselves masters of that, preferable to the other islands. At the entrance into the harbour on the left, stands Fort St. Philip, the fortifications of which have cost the British an incredible sum. At the extremity of the harbour, about three miles distant from the fort, is situated the town of Mahon, the usual residence of the British governor. This city owes its foundation to Mago, brother to Hannibal, and admiral of the Carthaginian fleet, from him it was called Magonia, which by corruption is now become Mahon. Mahon, though it is the most considerable city in the whole island, both for wealth and number of inhabitants, is not the capital; but Citadella, a city distant from it about 30 miles, surrounded by a strong wall, mounted with a good quantity of artillery, defended by a garrison of 500 men. There are several other towns and villages, but all of too little consequence to deserve notice.

The inhabitants of the island, exclusive of the garrison, amount in number to about 2700. They are of the Roman Catholic religion, and in their

language and manners resemble the Spaniards, with a small mixture of the Moorish customs retained from that nation, which maintained itself in the possession of this island many years after they were expelled from off the continent of Spain.

For the information of my readers, I will give a short account of the antiquities of this island, a copy of which I received from an officer of respectability in the fleet, who had examined all the antiquities in it with attention.

“ About two miles distant from Mahon, are two mounds of earth, the outides of which are covered with hewn stone: the inhabitants of the country call them heathen altars; to me they appear to be undeniably of Moorish workmanship, but I am at a loss to determine to what use they were designed. The diameter of the largest mound is at the base 97 feet, and its height 35. Its diminution, which is regular, brings it to terminate in a round platform of about 30 feet across. At the foot of the mound is a perpendicular stone, 10 feet high and 2 thick; on the top of which is placed, in a horizontal position, another stone 12 feet long and 5 broad, and 2 thick. Beneath these are several small perpendicular stones, 3 or 4 feet in height, without any horizontal one placed upon the top of them. There are also on the top of the mountain Agathe, near the center of the island, very plain marks of a Moorish encampment; being the last spot

of ground which they maintained after they were dispossessed of all the rest of the island."

The soil of the island is rather barren than fruitful; many years not producing corn enough for the sustenance of the inhabitants: but the want of corn is fully supplied by the great quantities of excellent wines, the exchange of which furnishes them with all sorts of necessary provisions. The air is moist, and consequently the heat is not very intense. One of the most profitable commodities, in this island, is salt, which the sun prepares in the cavities of the rock. The harbour abounds in very good fish, but particularly in a species of shellfish called dactyls, found in great quantities in the center of large stones, which must be broke to pieces before the fish can be extracted.

The only advantage which the British received from this island, arises from the security of the harbour, being a safe retreat in time of war for their shipping, which put in here to refit, the arsenals being well furnished with all sorts of naval stores. The rest of the fleet of our division, (during our stay at Minorca, which was only at this time 24 hours) having steered on for Malta.

We weighed anchor again on the 15th, and on the 16th the Kent of 74 guns joined the fleet, the weather being cloudy, attended with heavy showers of rain, and some thunder and lightning. Upon the 17th the weather became squally, and in the afternoon we came in sight of the island of Sardinia.

Sardinia, next to Sicily, is the largest island in the Mediterranean, and is separated from Corsica by the straits of Bonifacio. The face of the country is agreeable diversified with hills and vales, wood and water. The soil is fertile in corn and wine, and there are a great number of oranges, citrons and olives. On the coast there is a fishery for anchovies and coral, of which they send large quantities to Genoa and Leghorn. From the vast herds of small and large cattle reared here, this island furnishes Italy with wool, fine cheese, and raw hides. The mountains abound in metals and minerals, and abundance of game is found here, the most profitable of which are the buffalo, wild boar, and various kinds of deer. Cagliari is the capital town in the island.

We lay too off this island for some time, till the convoy came up, when we made sail, the weather squally, accompanied with showers of rain, which continued till we came in sight of the island of Sicily. This is by far the most considerable island in the Mediterranean in point of size, trade, and fertility. The climate of this island is extremely hot, so much so that even in the beginning of January the shade is refreshing. The wines and fruits of this island are excellent, and it also produces oil, sugar, honey, saffron and salt. The cattle are fine, and the coast affords good fisheries, in particular one for coral at Trapani. Great profits are made

in manufacturing silk, which first commenced here in 1130, and afterwards spread to Italy.

In the valley of Messina stands the famous Mount Etna, the height of which is 30,000 paces. Its summit never ceases to smoke, and often sends forth flames, and on the top of it the snow continues all the year round, and supplies the inhabitants with snow to cool their liquors. Palermo is the capital, and is situated in a delightful and extensive plain, terminated by high and fertile hills, which almost surround it on the land side. It is an excellent port, and very often British ships of war lye in the mole of Palermo. Its trade is considerable, and contains 120,000 inhabitants.

On the 19th we set sail, and passed by St. Paul's Bay, famed in history for being the place where the Apostle Paul was shipwrecked. This bay is small, and parts a small island called Goza, from Malta. Here we received a pilot on board, who steered the ship into the harbour of Malta.

Malta is an island in the Mediterranean, between Africa and Sicily, and is 20 miles in length, and 12 in breadth. It was formerly reckoned to belong to Africa, but now to Europe. Formerly it was nothing better than a barren rock, but there has been such great quantities of soil brought from Africa, that it has now become a fertile island, producing cotton, figs, oranges, melons, olives, &c. and its produce in corn is only sufficient for the consumpt of the island for half any ear, it being got mostly from Sicily.

This island, and that of Goza, was conferred in the year 1529, on an order of knights instituted at Jerusalem, by Baldwin, and from this period were called knights of Malta, who take vows of chastity and celibacy. They are obliged to suppress all pirates, and are at perpetual war with the Turks and other Mahometans, and corsairs of that religion. As a religious order they are subject to the Pope. The island of Goza is only distant five miles, and though mountainous produces good corn, being generally cultivated. Found lying here the Kent, and several other ships of war. Received orders for all the fleet to wood and water, and likewise to repair all damages that had happened to any ships of the fleet during the voyage.

Having got liberty I went ashore to see the city of Valleta. It derives its name from John de Valleta, who laid the foundation in the year 1566. It is a bishop's see, and is the residence of the grand master, and knights of the order. It is divided into three parts, which are so many peninsulas, consisting of solid rock, and separated from each other by channels capable of receiving large fleets; and even ships of war can lye at anchor so near the town, that at a distance it seems as if the town and shipping were intermixed with each other. The fortifications are strong and extensive, so that no part of the town, wherever you go, but you will find a strong battery, some with three, and others with four tire of cannon, built all round the town;

so that Valletta may be justly called the strongest fort in the world. The streets are narrow, but in general clean; the houses are regularly built with free-stone remarkably white. It makes a good appearance, having several churches, of which that of St. John the Baptist is an elegant structure. It once enjoyed a considerable revenue, and was entitled to a share of the prizes taken by the galleys of the knights of Malta. It had thus been enriched with a great number of valuable curiosities, and among others a lustre with a chain of fine gold, worth 500,000 crowns (L.62,500 sterling.) The riches of the church were said to exceed those of the Kaaba at Mecca, and of the tomb of Mahomet at Medina, but at last were taken by the French army when they conquered the island. The houses in general are handsome, and among the superb buildings the palace of the grand master is noble and magnificent, containing a magazine of arms for 40,000, kept in good order. When Lieutenant General Pigot was governor of Malta he lived in this palace. There are some English warehouses in the island, that sell all sorts of British and Italian goods, but at a very high price, except silk handkerchiefs, which the inhabitants manufacture, and sell at a reasonable rate. The Maltese jewellery and hardware shops are elegant, and they sell their articles considerably cheaper than in England.

The inhabitants are generally of a swarthy complexion, very much resembling the Moors, and are

strong and robust, and hospitable to strangers. The women always go with their heads covered with a large black silk cloak, are reckoned beautiful, being mostly of a Grecian extraction, and are brought over to this island for the purpose, it is reported, of being kept as mistresses by the grand masters. They are well shaped, wear large ear-rings of silver or gold, and dare not use any freedom with strangers. There are likewise a great number of monasteries and nunneries, but the French, while in Malta, gave orders for the monks and nuns to be liberated.

On the 22d of November General Abercrombie, with the staff of the army, went ashore to quarter during our stay at Malta : and having provided proper lodgings for the troops, he issued out an order for several regiments to land at once, and so on by rotation, till the whole of the army got their fixed time of residence ashore, being about sixteen days. The above plan proved of considerable utility to the soldiers, as they got plenty of time and room to clean their guns, accoutrements, clothing, &c. and was a mean of recovering many of the sick who had been badly on board. During the time army was on shore, persons were employed in washing and cleaning the ships throughout, and in sprinkling the decks with vinegar, and smoking the interior of the vessels, a proper remedy for removing all infectious or bad air, arising from the number of persons crowded together on board of the ships.

We remained here till we took on board a fresh supply of provisions, wood and water, and on the 7th of December arrived the Foudroyant, Vice Admiral Keith, with the rest of the fleet from Minorca, where they had been watering, &c. Happening to be ashore one day, I had the curiosity to see the Maltese manner of punishment. When I came near the market-house I saw a man going into the pillory. He stood on a stage erected for that purpose, about 18 feet from the pavement, a gag was put in his mouth, made of a piece of cane, which was tied very tight behind with a rope, made fast to a ring fixed in the wall for that purpose; they then proceeded to twist his hair in small quantities with a hook, which they fixed in the wall at the full extent of the hair, with his arms stretched out along the wall: in this miserable posture he stood for an hour, when by a signal from one of their magistrates, he was taken down, and as soon as realised he ran away with rapidity, not daring to look behind. His crime was for imposing on the soldiers, by taking an enormous price for his commodities.

We began to make preparations for leaving the harbour, which is perhaps the best in Europe for ships of war, a signal having been hoisted for the troops to repair on board their respective ships immediately. On their arrival on board it was easy to discern the benefit they had received while on shore,

having received plenty of Maktse wine, which was good and cheap.

In fine, the island of Malta is pleasantly situated, and for the most part their vegetables, bread, &c. was sold at a reasonable price. The common people speak Arabic, but the better sort Italian. There is one thing which is very troublesome to the inhabitants, the heat is so excessive, in some part of the year, both day and night, that the water breeds a great number of gnats, which are the plague of this country. The number of inhabitants are said to be about 98,000, containing 26 parishes, and between 30 and 40 villages. Here we received on board a Grecian pilot, who reported that we were bound for the island of Rhodes, a Greek island in the Mediterranean.

On the 21st of December we sailed from the harbour of Valetta with a fair wind, the fort firing a salute as we went out of the bay, which was returned by the flag ship. Next day, and the two following days, the wind was not favourable, accompanied with heavy showers of rain; at last the wind shifted, and the admiral left us under the command of the Ajax, when upon the 27th we came in view of the island of Candia, or ancient Crete. This island is famed for being the birth place of Jupiter, and the seat of legislature to all Greece. It is very mountainous near the sea coast, but its valleys and plains are remarkable fertile in wine, oil, corn, silk, honey, wax and opium; and is well known in

history for its 100 cities. Mount Ida is in this island, and Lethe, the river of oblivion, is a torpid stream. Early next morning by day light a breeze sprung up, when the fleet made all sail, and about sunset we came in view of the island of Rhodes, and came nigh the land in expectation of anchoring.

The air of this island is salubrious, and the soil very fertile; but like all other places subject to the Turks, is entirely lost for want of cultivation. The country is extremely pleasant, and clothed with trees and herbage always green. The wines here are much admired, and there is plenty of every thing else that can render life agreeable. The city of Rhodes is about three miles in circumference, with high walls planted on the top with cannon. There are three gates which face the sea, where corn is sold, and two to the land side. The buildings are very handsome, and one of the streets is paved with fine marble. It was in this island that the famous colossus of brass stood, seventy cubits high, between whose legs ships sailed, which after it was taken down loaded 900 camels.

The commander in chief finding this island salubrious, sent the hospital staff ashore, and appointed it to be the general hospital, whereupon all the sick belonging to the navy or army were immediately sent ashore, which afterwards proved very advantageous to our army. Just as we were coming to anchor, we were hailed by a cutter, who had just come from Lord Keith, informing us that we were

to proceed to Marmoussa Bay in Turkey-Asia, being only six leagues distant. Accordingly we set sail, and came to anchor in Marmoussa Bay on the 1st of January 1801. Found lying here the rest of the fleet under the command of Lord Keith. This bay is in Turkey in Asia, and in the province of Natolia; it is a very large bay, surrounded by high hills on every side, except the entrance into it, which is very narrow, so much so that about three miles from the mouth of the bay a person could not discern any of our ships, nor suppose that any anchorage could be found for vessels in such a romantic situation.

As this was our last place of rendezvous, preparatory to our landing in Egypt, it was here that every thing concerning the army was adjusted, and measures were taken by the Ottoman Porte to supply us with plenty of gun boats, &c. and Turkish horses for the cavalry. On the 2d of January received orders to proceed immediately to take in wood and water, the former of which we were to take on board as much as possible, having nothing to do but to send men ashore and cut down as many trees as they thought necessary, the mountains being covered with them for many miles. The next order received was for all the bakers in the fleet to go ashore, ovens having been erected for their use, and by an order from Lord Keith the purfers delivered out flour to the bakers, so by that means all the fleet were amply supplied with new baked bread,

and we received plenty of Turkish bullocks, so that by these salutary means taken by the commander in chief Sir R. Abercrombie, the men began to recover every day, and the sick who had not gone to the hospital at Rhodes joined their respective regiments. At this time there was an order issued out for a brigade to go ashore every day, which was accomplished by our launches and flat boats; by this plan every man landed, and was employed one day at exercise, and the other wooding, which contributed to the health and spirits of the men, an example of which they gave the French army on the memorable 8th of March.

About the centre of the bay stands the town of Marmorice: it is but small, and is almost in ruins. They have a Turkish mosque here, and the remains of an old fortification. The Turks, in general, are well made, and if they are not exposed too much to the sun, their complexions are tolerably fair; they are robust; they use no labour that distorts the body; nor have they any imaginary wants, the supply of which would inverate them. During our stay here we built huts for the use of the officers, in a fine valley, about two miles in the country, surrounded by immense, and almost impassable mountains, on the sides of which are a few scattered villages, or rather sheds, built of boughs, through which the rain constantly enters. Here the Turk lives (being possessed of a few goats, a gun and a horse, the poorest among them having a nag,)

in a state of ignorance. The finest earth remains untilled; and even if they had a turn for industry, it would be their misfortune; for as soon as they amassed a little property, then alas! it would fall a prey to the aga, and the aga in his turn would fall a prey to the bashaw. Their women are only to be seen at a distance: for as soon as a stranger arrives they instantly cover up their heads with a cloak, which forms a part of their dress, and retire to their hovels. These people possess a wonderful spirit of roving, and are always provided with long knives and pistols, and it is very common to see them with dreadful wounds; luckily Mahomet, knowing their dispositions, very wisely forbade the use of wine, otherwise did they drink immoderately, like some of our countrymen, God knows what would become of them.

Their dress is plain, and the men wear drawers next the skin, over them they have a shirt of satin, taffety, or any other neat stuff, which reaches to their heels, and is tied round the waist with a sash, in which they frequently wear two daggers, adorned with gold or silver, according to their quality and estate. In this sash they also have pockets, one for their money and another for their tobacco. On their head they wear a crimson velvet cap, round which they wrap a red or white turban. They are great slaves to tobacco, particularly in smoking, both men and women; and many of them

lose their intellectual faculties at an early period, by the immoderate use of opium.

The Turks believe in predestination, the effect of which I was informed was such, that during the plague, which sometimes rages violently, the markets are all open, and provisions exposed for sale as usual, those that are well visit the sick, and the streets are frequented in the same manner as in times of health. The tender passion of love has very little share in promoting matrimony in Turkey: the women are generally married between 12 and 18 years of age, but they never see their husbands till after the indissoluble knot is tied. Marriages here are usually brought about by the mothers, who in order to find proper wives for their sons, take all opportunities of introducing themselves among the young women, and when they have made their choice propose the matter to the mothers on the other side: if there be no objection, with respect to character or circumstances, the price is fixed that the man is to pay for her, and a licence procured from the *cadi*, upon which an *iman* joins their hands, and declares them married.

They are very strict observers of their duty in religion, pray regularly five times every day, and always wash before they pray. As wine is prohibited to be drunk by the Mahometans, I will amuse my readers with an authentic narrative of a Turkish *aga*: this account was given to me by a black who lived with the same *aga*, and had been long with

the Moors in Barbary, and lived at Gibraltar for sometime, where he learned to speak the English language, but making his escape from there, he came to Turkey, where he had lived ever since. During my stay at Marmorice, I often, when I was wooding, had the opportunity of conversing with him. This aga had an eunuch as one of his principal servants, and upon whose confidence he relied. One day he happened to see him drunk, but at this time did not chastise him for it; the next time, which was in a few days after, he called him before him, and swore by the prophet Mahomet that if he found him the third time drunk, he would put him to death that moment. Notwithstanding this severe threat, the eunuch still continued to get intoxicated, hereupon the aga conceiving with himself, that there must be some extraordinary delight in drinking, because this eunuch preferred it before his life, fell to it himself, and in a short time died from excessive drinking!

On the 10th of November a midshipman and two sailors were roving among the mountains, they were unfortunately attacked by wild beasts, (of which there are vast numbers here) and tore in pieces; next day when they were found to be absent, a search was made, but all that could be found was one of the sailor's jackets, which was torn in pieces. This accident made our men more cautious in not wandering away by themselves into the interior of the woods.

On the 12th arrived here a Turkish frigate, with an admiral's flag on board. Their ships are now mostly built, after the British method, since Sir Sidney Smith in the *Tiger*, went up to Constantinople in 1799. Next day the Turkish admiral, accompanied by the commander in chief, came ashore, and reviewed a large body of the army, whose appearance and discipline was highly esteemed, and gave great satisfaction to the Turkish nobility. On board of Turkish ships, the marines are Levants, an order of soldiery instituted in imitation of that of the janizaries, (which are the Grand Signior's body guards) with whom they enjoy the same rights and privileges, differing from them in nothing but their pay, which is much more considerable. They are directed by their own particular officers, who are all subject to the Capitan Pacha. The residence of this great officer is in the arsenal of Constantinople; where he keeps a most magnificent court, inferior to none in the number of his attendants, but the Grand Vizer himself. Under his jurisdiction are all public slaves, both such as remain in the prisons of the arsenal, and those who serve on board the ships of war. To him belong the revenues of the greatest part of the islands of the Archipelago. When on board the fleet, his authority extends over all maritime places, where he acts with a most absolute and despotic power.

The Turks, for the most, are but little skilled in the art of navigation, (although of late years they

are become more experienced) and have less knowledge in fighting their ships than any nation in the world, inasmuch that in a sea engagement they have little more than their own bravery to depend on, and the most of their ships are navigated by Greeks.

Some few days after arrived the Swiftsure of 74 guns Admiral Bickerton, and the Tiger of 80 guns, from a cruise off Alexandria, likewise some Turkish ships of war and gun boats from Rhodes. Having staid here, till we got every thing ready for embarking and disembarking as a preparatory step to our landing in Egypt. We at length began to think that our voyage was coming to a conclusion, and almost every individual in the fleet waited with the utmost impatience for our sailing.

About the latter end of this month the weather began to be very boisterous, so that the whole fleet were obliged to lower their topmasts, as the gale continued for several days, accompanied with very heavy showers of rain and hail, so much so that the oldest men in the fleet declared they never had seen such large hail.

On the 4th of February the weather became more moderate, and we were joined by the Dolphin of 44 guns, with a fleet of transports, having horses on board for our cavalry. The Turks did not supply us with one-half of the horses they ought to have done, as a great part of the dragoons, consisting of the 11th, 12th and 26th regiments wanted

horses. This night an order was issued out by the commander in chief, to all commanding officers of regiments, to furnish their men with ammunition and good flints. At this time sailed the *Swiftsure*, accompanied by another ship of war, for Alexandria. There is one circumstance, which I may inform my readers, that upon our arrival at first in this bay, Lord Elgin, our ambassador at Constantinople, sent a Turkish general, (by order of the Grand Signior) to Marmorice, to be governor during the stay of the fleet there: on his arrival our commander in chief was very much surprised to find he was a Scotchman, which proved the vigilance of Lord Elgin in furthering, as much as lay in his power, the expedition. If any other person had been sent, without the French or English language, they could have been of no service here, as he was to fix the price of all provisions, &c. that were sold, and to settle all disputes which might occur with the inhabitants. This general's name was Campbell; he left Scotland at the rebellion in the year 1745, and came to Turkey, and had remained in the service of that country ever since. He was most magnificently dressed in embroidered silk, and was attended by a large retinue of Levants. Happening one day to see the 42d regiment at exercise, he was heard to say, "That it warmed his heart greatly at the very sight of the ancient bonnet and hose."

The remainder of this month the weather was agreeable, and we were busily employed in embarking the cavalry on board of Greek transports, sent for that purpose. On the 14th all the troops, baggage, &c. were on board waiting for a fair wind.

The following is the distribution of the army as they landed by brigades :

General Sir R. Abercrombie, Commander in Chief.

Major General Hutchinson, Second in Command.

Hon. Brigadier General Finch.

12th light dragoons, Lieut. Col. Browne

26th light dragoons, Lieut. Col. Gordon

Major General Ludlow.

1st bat. Coldstream Guards, Colonel Price

2d ditto Colonel Dalrymple

Major General Coote.

1st Brigade, Royals, 2d bat. Lieut. Col. Garden

1st bat. 54th reg. Lieut. Col. Darby

2d bat. 54th reg. Lieut. Col. Layard

92d regiment, Lieut. Col. Erskine

Major General Cradock.

2d Brigade, 8th regt. Lieut. Col. Drummond

13th ditto, Lieut. Col. Bradshaw

18th ditto, Major Prolyn

90th ditto, Lieut. Col. Hill

Major General Lord Cavan.

3d Brigade, 50th regt.	Major Rown
79th ditto,	Colonel Cameron
Marines,	Colonel Smith

Brigadier General Doyle.

4th Brigade, 2d (or Queens)	Lieut. Col. Dalhousie
30th regiment,	Lieut. Col. Wilkinson
44th ditto,	Lieut. Col. Ogilvy
89th ditto,	Lieut. Col. Stewart

Brigadier General Stewart.

5th Brigade, Minorca regt.	Lieut. Col. Durens
De Rolles,	Lieut. Col. Durler
Dillons,	Lieut. Col. Dillon

Brigadier General Oakes.

Reserve, 23d foot,	Lieut. Col. Hall
28th ditto,	Hon. Col. Paget
42d ditto,	Lieut. Col. Dickson
58th ditto,	Lieut. Col. Houston
Corficans,	Captain Low

Plank coms. 2d bat. 40th reg. Lieut. Col. Spencer

Detachm. 11th light drags. Captain Money

Detachm. Hompesch's rifle, Major Wilson

Maltese pioneers, and detachments Staff Corps

Commandant of artillery, Brig. Gen. Lawson

Chief engineer, Major M-Kerras

Adjutant General, Brigadier Gen. Hope

Deputy Adjutant General, Colonel Abercrombie

Assistants, Capt. Maxwell, 48th regiment

— Lieut. M'Donald, 89th ditto

Quarter Master General, Colonel Anstruther
 Deputy Q. Master General, Lieut. Col. Duncan
 Assistants, Capt. M'Lean, 92d regiment
 ——— Lieut. Brownrigg, engineers
 ——— Major Birch, 16th light dragoons
 ——— Capt. Locon, 61st regiment
 ——— Lieutenant Jones
 ——— Lieut. Rivarola, 22d regiment
 Commissary General, Henry Motz, Esq.
 Deputy Paymaster General, James Duntze, Esq.

This day the Inflexible of 64 guns arrived from England, and brought from Malta some of the Guards who had been left there, but had recovered. Received the news of the union with Great Britain and Ireland having passed the Parliament. On the 20th Lord Keith, Vice Admiral of the Red, hoisted a blue flag, having been appointed Admiral of the Blue. The fleet on the 21st weighed anchor, and set sail with a fair wind, consisting of above 200 vessels, the troops on board being in high spirits, having been well taken care of while they remained at Marmorice Bay. The wind continuing favourable, we proceeded on our voyage, and on Sunday afternoon, March 1st, we came in sight of Alexandria. On the 22d the whole fleet anchored in the road of Aboukir, within about five miles of the shore. The weather became so boisterous, we could not get landing the troops at this time, which gave the French full time to collect troops and ar-

villery, and to make every necessary preparation to oppose us. For two or three days the wind continued to blow strong, accompanied with a heavy sea, which still prevented our landing. Received the news of the death of Major M'Kerras, chief engineer on the expedition: he had been in an open boat reconnoitring the coast, when unluckily he was discovered by the French sentinels, who immediately fired into the boat, and sunk it. His death was very much lamented, having the plans of our debarkation, &c. in his pocket. Received orders to supply every man with three days' provisions and spirits, and on the 7th we were busily employed in carrying troops, from the ships of war, on board of transports that lay near the shore. On the 8th a signal was hoisted for disembarkation, and all the military seemed eager to get into the boats, and in less than an hour the boats were full. About six o'clock in the morning the boats were all in a line, and moved forward towards the coast between the lake of Madiâ, and the fort of Aboukir, accompanied by several gun boats to cover their landing. The enemy, commanded by General Freant, had their artillery, consisting of 15 pieces of cannon, placed on a space of little more than two miles, from near the castle of Aboukir to the narrow isthmus which forms the boundary of the lake. Such was the situation of affairs on the morning of the 8th. At seven in the morning the boats, presenting a formidable front, rowed toward the coast, and

arrived in excellent order, and immediately began to land, under cover of the gun boats. Nothing ever exceeded the boldness and perseverance with which the boats continued to approach the shore, under a shower of bullets, shells and grape shot from 16 pieces of artillery, besides the musquetry of 2,500 men. Every discharge was answered by huzzas from the seamen, and all seemed totally insensible of danger.

The reserve, under General Moore, landed first, accompanied by a party of the Guards, and as soon as they got out of the boats, they formed as if on parade, and were immediately charged by a strong column of infantry, but the brave British soldiers stood the charge, and soon put them to the route, and in a moment carried the height, and took several pieces of cannon. The left were charged by the cavalry the moment they got out of the boats; however, they drove every thing before them, and in the course of three quarters of an hour the enemy was completely beaten, with the loss of half of his artillery. This conflict was a dreadful one, and continued till nine in the morning. After an halt of two or three hours, the army advanced about four miles, where they remained till the 12th, and in the interim men were employed in the disembarkation of ammunition, and part of General Coote's brigade, which had not been landed, on account of their not being able to bring all the army in the first flotilla of boats in the morning.

Here we began to find a little the inconvenience of not having plenty of fresh water, the soldiers being obliged to come to the beach for it. There was plenty of butts put into the sand very near the surface, these were filled with water by our sailors, who were at this time employed constantly, night and day, in landing water, provisions, ammunition, &c. At this time the 2d regiment of foot, and the battalion of marines, were employed in storming the castle of Aboukir. On the 12th the army marched forwards, constantly skirmishing with the advanced guard of the enemy, who had by this time received a reinforcement of upwards of two brigades of infantry, and one regiment of cavalry from Cairo. The troops halted within two leagues of Alexandria, and one league of the enemy, who were advantageously posted on a ridge, with their right to the canal of Alexandria, and their left to the sea. If I remember right, the place we stopt at was called Mondowi, in the neighbourhood of which was the remains of an old castle. Next morning, being the 13th, we moved forwards to attack the enemy, and to turn their left; they did not however wait, but came down and attacked us; our army moved to attack the right of the enemy, marching by lines from the left: the reserve covering the movement, and parallel with the first fire. As the columns advanced into the plain, which consisted mostly of sand, with some heights to the right, and the lake Madia on the left, the enemy attacked us with all his ca-

valry, supported by a considerable body of infantry, and 10 or 12 pieces of cannon: this attack was repulsed by our advanced guard, consisting of the 90th regiment on the right, and the 92d on the left, both of which behaved most nobly. Our first line then formed two lines to the front of march, the flanks of which were protected by the reserve, and continued in that manner, with fixed bayonets, whilst the second line, (continuing still in column,) turned the enemy's right, and forced them to leave their position. The army followed in the order above stated, and Sir Ralph gave orders for renewing the attack on the heights close to the town, to which the enemy retreated; but on examining their position, it was thought that they were under the guns of the fort, and could not probably be kept if taken. In the evening our army took possession of the ground which the enemy had left.

The force the French had appeared to be about 5000 infantry, 600 cavalry, and a large proportion of artillery, the ground being very favourable to the two last. The movements, although under a constant cannonade, were regular and accurate. The commander in chief, in the last action, had his horse shot under him. Having taken possession of the ground the enemy left, we lay there all night, and next morning began to make redoubts and batteries, fatigue parties being sent to work under the command of the engineers. Nothing of importance occurred for two days, but our troops busy in dig-

ging wells in the plain for water, which happily we found, although warm, and a little tincture of salt in it. Notwithstanding of this impediment, by care and attention in cleaning the wells often, the water became more clear and sweeter.

On the evening of the 16th, as Colonel Bryce, of the Guards, was going his rounds, the night being foggy; he had went too nigh the French sentinels, who took him prisoner. The colonel being obstinate, would not deliver himself up, when they cut and wounded him in such a manner, that he died next day at Alexandria.

On the 18th the castle of Aboukir surrendered to the British, after a siege of eleven days; they consisted of 168 men, and were immediately sent to Marseilles in France. We continued to bring forward artillery, &c. for our batteries, with an intention to attack the position of the French in front of Alexandria, when Menou collected his whole force from Cairo, and other places, and joined the army at Alexandria, and attacked us before day-light on the 21st.

The following orders were delivered on the 20th, by General Menou, previous to the attack he made on our army.

The army is to attack the English to-morrow the 21st. All the troops will therefore be at three o'clock in the morning precisely in order of battle without beat of drum, and without making any

kind of noise, 200 paces before the present camp, which is without the gate of Rosetta.

The general attack is to begin precisely an hour and a half before day-break, that is to say, at half past four in the morning.

The army is to be ranged in the following order : the division of Regnier, composed of the 13th and 85th demi-brigades, shall support its right towards the bridge which is on the canal of Alexandria, before the present camp.

To the left of the division of Regnier, the division of Freant, composed of the 25th, 61st, and 75th demi-brigades, is to take its station.

To the left of the division of Freant, and consequently in the centre, is to be the column commanded by General D'Estaing, composed of the 21st demi-brigade, and two companies of grenadiers of the 25th, and the Greek grenadiers. This column is intended to form the advanced guard.

To the left of the column of D'Estaing is to be the division of Rampon, composed of the 32d demi-brigade, and of three companies of caribineers of the 2d light brigade. It will form the centre of the army conjointly with the column of D'Estaing.

To the left of the division of Rampon is to be the division of Lanusse, composed of the 4th, 18th, 69th, and 88th demi-brigades. It is to support its left by the sea.

It follows from this arrangement, that the divisions of Regnier and Freant will form the right wing; the

divisions of D'Estaing and Rampon the centre; and the divisions of Lanusse the left.

A light corps will advance on the left of the enemy, in order to make a false attack, which is to begin at the same moment as the real one. This corps will be composed of the regiment of dromedaries, and of 30 cavalry.

Three hundred cavalry are to march against the right of the army, on the other side of the canal, in order to annoy their left, by constantly pushing forward riflemen. This manœuvre is to begin at the same time as the false attack made by the dromedaries. They are to obey the orders of General Regnier.

The rest of the cavalry of the army are to keep behind the centre.

The artillery in reserve are to be placed behind the cavalry, and behind them are to be the infantry guides.

The main attack is to be begun by the left wing of the army, under the command of General Lanusse; and by the centre, commanded by Generals Rampon and D'Estaing. They are to march against the redoubts in front of their position, and to take them with the bayonet. At the same time the right wing of the army, commanded by General Regnier, is to refuse a little until the engagement shall have been warmly begun by the left. The centre is to second the left wing, and the right wing is then to advance briskly forward, and to attack and put

to the route all that falls in their way. When the positions of the right and of the centre of the enemy shall have been carried, and all their first line routed, the French army must form again with rapidity, in order to march against the second line of the enemy. The riflemen only are exempted from this measure.

This movement against the second line of the enemy is to be begun by the left wing, which is to refuse a little, its right endeavouring to out-flank the enemy. The centre is to follow this movement, and the right wing is to keep in check all the left of the enemy. The object of this movement is to endeavour to drive back the English to the lake of Madia.

General Rozie, who commands the cavalry, will have an eye to all the movements of the enemy, and will take advantage of every favourable circumstance, as well as of ground, in order to advance and destroy all that may have been shaken by the infantry.

General Sougir will pay the same attention to the advantageous employment of his artillery. It is necessary he should have an eye to the gun boats which are on the flanks of the position: it will, perhaps, be necessary to silence them with 12 pounders.

The generals who command the divisions will employ their artillery of whatever kind, in the manner which may appear to them most proper.

The case must be the same with respect to the general commanding the cavalry. The generals of division must also form their front of the column of attack as well as their second line, if they judge it necessary, in the manner which they shall deem most advantageous.

The commander in chief will be in motion every where, to issue the fresh orders which circumstances may render necessary.

(Signed) MENOÜ.

The attack was made upon our right and centre, and consisted of five columns, in number supposed to be about 12,000. They first made a feint upon our left, with a small body of cavalry, and a regiment of sharpshooters, but the principal attack was directed to the right, in order to turn that flank, whereby they might possess themselves of our batteries, and obtain the command of the sand hills.

About 3 or 400 yards in front of the reserve, a redoubt, open in the rear, had been thrown up, which commanded the plain in front of our army; in this redoubt was posted the 28th regiment, a large ruin, (called by us Cleopatra's Palace) about 40 yards behind the right of the redoubt, flanked it on that side, and swept the ground between the redoubt and the sea, and in this was posted the 58th regiment. If the enemy got possession of this redoubt and the ruin, it was impossible for the army to keep its position. It had been settled, that in

case of an attack the 42d regiment was to move up to the left of the redoubt, and the 23d regiment, and flank companies of the 40th, were to support the 58th in the ruins.

The army were standing to their arms an hour before day-light, when the attack commenced on our left; this, however, only masked the real attack on the right, which commenced immediately after on the redoubt. They attacked us in front of both flanks. There were six pieces of artillery in the redoubt; they could not force it in front, but the ground enabled them to lye under cover, and keep up a heavy fire on it. On the right the 58th allowed them to advance pretty close, and then threw in two or three fires, which killed so many that the remainder retired, and never made any other serious attempt on that side. On the left of the redoubt things were more serious; two bodies of the French had passed unseen, and when the 42d arrived were forming upon the left of the redoubt: one of these bodies was discovered completely in their rear, and moving towards the ruin. The 42d faced to the right about, and charged the French column, not a man of which, consisting of 4 or 500, escaped being killed, wounded, or prisoners; they then turned against the other body and drove it back; but in doing this their order was deranged, and a corps of cavalry got in upon them; they, however, stood their ground, and got the better of the cavalry.

The French rebew'd the attack twice afterwards; their cavalry again came forward, and part of them turned the redoubt, and got into it; the 28th, who lined the parapet, without leaving their station, turned round and drove out by their fire such as they did not kill. The foreign brigade under General Stewart had moved up from the second line, to the support of the reserve, and assisted in repelling the last attacks. While these events were passing on the right, our left was not much less busily engaged in repelling the attacks of the several columns opposed to them, who were waiting the result of the attack on the right to push forward.

Having failed in every attempt to force us with their infantry, they endeavoured to dislodge us with their artillery, and they cannonaded us for an hour and a half, without our being able, for want of ammunition, to return a shot. It was about this time that the commander in chief was taken prisoner by some French cavalry, one of whom had his sabre lifted to cut him down, when a private in the 42d ran from the ranks to his assistance, and shot the Frenchman, and rescued him. Sir Ralph shortly after received a shot in the thigh: he continued, however, to ride about during the remainder of the action, which continued for about two hours from that time. As soon as ammunition arrived, they retreated. The French lost in this action about 4000 men: their cavalry, which amounted to 1500, it was reported, was reduced to 800. Our provost

marshal buried 1100 of their dead, and 300 horses. It was in this action the invincible standard was taken by a serjeant of the 42d regiment.

General Hope being pursued by a party of French horsemen, drew his sword to defend himself, but unfortunately it dropped from his hand, owing to a shot which took off two of his fingers. At this critical moment a grape shot struck his horse in the belly, and covered the general all over with his blood and entrails. The French seeing the general lying on the ground in this situation, thought he was dead, and rode off to another part of the field; but the general, recovering from his fall, got up, and, looking round, found all the French troops gone.

Sir Ralph Abercrombie wound was at first sight thought not dangerous. He was in the thickest of the battle. Wherever the enemy pressed, there was this good gallant veteran seen, combining with age all the ardour, activity, and courage of youth: after he was wounded he was sent on board of the *Foudroyant*, Lord Keith, where he could have better accommodation than on shore.

It may not be improper to let my readers see the orders issued out in our camp on the night of the 21st of March.

Camp in front of Alexandria.

As it is possible the enemy may be desperate enough to make a night attack, Major General Hutchinson is under the necessity of requesting that the

troops may remain with their accoutrements, in the position they are to occupy in case of alarm. General officers will take care not to throw away fire during the darkness of the night, but to use the bayonet as much as possible. Should an attack take place, it is hoped the greatest order, silence, and regularity may be observed. The troops must be fully conscious of the glory they have already acquired; and of their superiority over an enemy whom they have so often beaten. But at the same time prudence, and discipline, must be strongly recommended, and with a little caution, the British army in Egypt will find they are invincible.

Next morning found all things in a quiet state, we remaining in our old position, and the French army encamped about a mile without the Rosetta gate of the city; a fine declining valley intervened between the two armies, where our picquets were posted. We were again employed at our old occupation, erecting batteries. It was about this time that our camp was reviewed by the Capitan Pacha, who was well pleased with the appearance and behaviour of our troops.

Part of our army marched against Rosetta, and Fort St. Julien near the mouth of the Nile. Sir Sidney Smith commanded the expedition against Rosetta, and Colonel Spencer had under his command the 2d, (or Queens) and the flank companies of the 40th regiment.

On the 5th of April about 500 of our troops,

followed by the Turkish army, which the Capitan Pacha landed here, consisting of about 6000 men, crossed the passage of the Madia Lake on their march to Rosetta, which was taken, along with Fort St. Julien, by Colonel Spencer and Sir Sidney Smith, upon the 10th. This circumstance gave us the command of the mouth of the Nile. The army, which marched from this, under the command of Major General Hutchinson, proceeded up the Nile to Cairo, for which purpose the Grand Vizier was likewise in motion.

The following was the state of the French troops, and the positions they occupied, before the battle of the 21st of March:

“ At Alexandria the number of troops consisted of 1400 men, under the command of General Lanusse and Veil: the former was wounded on the 21st of March; he had his thigh taken off by a cannon ball in the early part of the action, and only survived eight days. The chief surgeon Levry, of great merit, went to the general to perform the amputation, but Lanusse refused it; all his friends entreated that it might be done, and the skilful surgeon pledged himself for the success of the operation, which he maintained would not endanger his life: it was impossible for him to live without amputation. At length fatigued with the pressing solicitations of his friends, Lanusse said to them, “ No! I will not consent to survive this dishonourable affair,” and died.

" At Cairo, 1600 men commanded by Menou, Damas, Regnier and Bellier, besides which the surgeon general reported 1400 invalids and sick. At Suez 800 men under Maeshane, and 100 under Morán at Cossier. General D'Estaing commands 800 infantry at Rosetta, and there is a corps of 200 cavalry at the same place. At Damietta 1000 foot and 300 horse. On the Rosetta branch 200 foot, and at Illeshby and Boulac two corps of cavalry of 200 each. At Aboukir and Belbeg 3 companies of 100 men, besides 4000 auxiliaries, principally at Cairo. The Boulac cavalry are within four miles of Cairo. The auxiliary troops are principally composed of natives of the islands of the Archipelago, commanded by Turks, whom the French are cautious of employing, and place no confidence in."

The above intelligence was received from an officer of the French army who deserted to us. At this time the Arabs came with provisions, fruit, &c. to sell at our market, there being a place appointed for that purpose; likewise a Turkish chief to superintend the market, and fix the price of the different commodities the British wanted to purchase; and it was the business of our provost marshal to take care that no person molested the Arabs, by taking any unlawful means to rob them of their property. He had the whole command of punishing any person detected, and had an officer's guard to attend him when wanted. The market being near the lake, there was a large sandy plain on the other

side, by which most of the Arabs came to our market: at the futhermost end of the plain it was marshy, and I believe joined the Lake Maerites on the west side of Alexandria. The French seeing all their hopes frustrated of receiving any reinforcements, provisions, &c. by the Nile, used at night to set out, sometimes up to their breast in water coming through this marsh, and proceed on their way by the desert to Cairo, and sometimes when on their journey they met with the poor Arabs coming to our market with provisions, they would attack and rob them of their property; by these means our market began to diminish, but this was soon put a stop to.

Major General Coote being left commander in chief of the army before Alexandria, the engineer proposed a plan of cutting off its communication, by inundating the adjacent district, which could easily be effected by cutting a small piece of ground not above 20 yards broad, that divided the plain and the Lake Madia. This plan being agreed on, fatigue parties were set to work, and in a little time accomplished their design: it was a long time in filling up to the level, but at last a squadron of gun boats were stationed upon it.

All this month nothing of importance occurred. About the 1st of May the weather was very warm, and a great number of men in the army were much afflicted with sore lips and eyes, and others with the

flux, so that our hospitals were full, and the troops in general thin and meagre looking.

About this time an express was sent by Colonel Holloway of the artillery, containing an account of an engagement betwixt the Turks, commanded by the Grand Vizier, and the French troops, in the neighbourhood of Cairo, when the French were defeated with the loss of 50 killed, and one taken prisoner.

Nothing particular occurred in our camp for a short time, as both armies remained in a state of quietness. The country where we lay encamped was nothing but a desert of sand, and no herbage could be seen from Aboukir castle to the heights of Alexandria. Some affirm that it was formerly all one city, for during our march betwixt the two places, we saw innumerable ruins, old castles, &c. Some learned men in our camp were of opinion that this was the ancient Canopus, but this I cannot believe, because the situation does not agree with that which is given of Canopus by all the ancient writers. It is very well known to every person acquainted with the ancient history of this country, that the city stood upon the banks of the largest western branch of the Nile, which was from thence called the Canopic Branch, which now discharges itself into the sea, a little below Rosetta; and as Aboukir is situated above 15 miles distance from that branch, I think it very reasonable to conclude that Canopus is falsely supposed to have been in the

neighbourhood of that place; but let it be as it may, the remains of some town is very plain.

An express was received from Major General Hutchinson, dated

Head Quarters near Alkam in Egypt,

June 1st, 1801.

“ The French abandoned the position of El-Aft on the 7th of May, which we occupied the same evening, and on the 9th we advanced to Rahmanich; where the French were posted, with upwards of 3000 infantry and 800 cavalry. We first imagined that they might have endeavoured to have maintained that position; but our corps on the eastern bank of the Nile having got into their rear, took the fort of Rahmanich in reserve, which probably induced the enemy to retire in the night, between the 9th and 10th, leaving a garrison in the fort, which surrendered in the morning, amounting to 110 men, commanded by a chief of brigade: we also took the same day about fifty cavalry and three officers coming from Alexandria.

“ As the enemy retired towards Cairo, it became necessary to follow him, in order to cover the army of the Grand Vizier, and to secure a junction with the expected reinforcement from India. Nothing happened of any importance until the 14th, when we fell in with a valuable convoy of germs on the Nile; they had come from Cairo down the canal of Menouff, which joins the Damietta and the Rosetta branches of the river. From this circumstance

they knew nothing of the retreat of General Grange from Rahmanich. About 150 prisoners fell into our hands, and several heavy guns, some of them intended for the defence of Alexandria. The convoy itself was very valuable, and is a great loss to the enemy. We found on board all kinds of cloathing, wine, spirits, &c. and about 5000 l. in money.

“ On the 17th, when encamped at Alkam, we were informed by the Arabs, that a considerable body of French, coming from Alexandria, were advancing towards the Nile, near the spot where the boats of the Capitan Pacha then were. The cavalry were immediately ordered out with two pieces of cannon, under the command of Brigadier General Doyle, supported by his brigade of infantry. Colonel Cavalier who commanded the French convoy, as soon as he perceived the boats of the Capitan Pacha, suspected that our army must be near, and therefore retired into the desert, where we followed him. The cavalry came up with him, after a march of about three hours. A flag of truce was sent in to them by Major Wilson of the Hompesch, requiring them to surrender, on condition that their private property should be respected, and that they should be sent to France by the first convenient opportunity. With these terms they complied, and laid down their arms. They amounted in all to about 600 men, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, together with a considerable portion of the dromedary corps, one four pounder, and 550 camels. The

prisoners taken are all Frenchmen, and of the best troops they had in Egypt.

“ On the 17th of May the enemy retired from the fort of Libet, on the Damietta branch, and formed a junction with about 200 men which they had at Burlos. This fort they also evacuated, and embarked in five small vessels, four of which had been taken and carried into Aboukir bay; the fifth endeavoured to escape towards Cyprus, but a Turkish frigate was left in chase of her, so that it is more than probable she has shared the same fate. The garrisons of the two forts consisted of about 700 men; so in all we have taken, from the 9th to the 20th, near 1600 men; which makes a considerable diminution of the enemy's forces in this country. The French made a most extraordinary rapid march from Rahmanich to Gizar, where they had arrived on the 13th, and immediately crossed the river Bou-lac. On the 15th they marched to attack the Grand Vizier's army. His highness anticipated their intention, and made a formal movement with a considerable body of cavalry, on the night between the 15th and 16th. The armies remained for some hours in presence of each other, when the Ottoman troops attacked, at about eight o'clock in the morning, and after an action of seven hours, the French retired; having lost between 3 or 400 men killed and wounded. They were nearly the same people who had retreated from Rahmanich, and were about 4,500 men.

“The Mamelukes under the orders of Osman Bey (successor to Murad Bey) have joined us to the amount of about 1500 cavalry, inferior certainly to none in the world. I am sanguine enough to hope that the most serious good effect will arise from the junction, as they have a most intimate knowledge of the country, and the greatest influence amongst the inhabitants.

J. H. HUTCHINSON.”

Fort of Rahmanich, May 10th, 1801.

The governor of the fort of Rahmanich will surrender to the Ottoman and British force on the following conditions :

1st, The officers will wear their swords, and retain their effects. They, as well as soldiers, shall be prisoners of war.

2^d, The garrison shall be sent back to France, and shall not serve against the king of England, nor against his allies, until exchanged conformable to the cartel between the two nations.

3^d, The wounded are placed under the protection of British humanity.

(Signed) *La Croix*, chef de brigade.

Capitan Pacha.

J. H. Hutchinson, commander in chief.

James Stevenson, captain royal navy.

My readers must here understand, that while the army, under Major General Hutchinson, and the troops of the Capitan Pacha, were advancing to-

wards Cairo, a flotilla of gun boats, &c. under the command of Captain Stevenson; was always in wait of the army with ammunition, provisions, &c. and to be ready to capture any germ coming from, or going to, Cairo; likewise for cannonading any fort in conjunction with the army, as they had formerly done with success at Rosetta and Rahmanich. The army proceeded on their march towards Cairo, and a considerable number of our men were sick in the hospitals.

On the 12th of June I received orders from Colonel Smith to proceed immediately to Rosetta on service. I immediately set out from the camp near Alexandria, in company with a captain of the army, who was to instruct and give me orders. We arrived at a block house in the evening, on the other side of Lake Madia, distant about nine miles from our camp: here we were obliged to rest for the night, the way between this and Rosetta being over a sandy desert, and the path road hardly perceivable without a guide, as it was not very common, and on the borders of the desert. We remained here all night, and set out next morning, having an Arab for our guide, well armed in case of an attack, the country being infested with wandering Arabs, who rob all persons that they conquer. We continued our journey over an immense plain of sand, and at length arrived at a Turkish hut, which our guide entered, and received plenty of water melons to eat, the Turk having upwards of 12 or 14 acres of them.

in the neighbourhood of his hut. Learned from this Turk that we were about six miles from Rosetta. We again set out on our journey, which was very fatiguing, through heavy sands, and the scorching rays of the sun, and at length arrived at Rosetta, where we took lodgings in an Italian woman's house. Early next morning I went out to see this ancient city. It is called in the language of the country Raschid, is of a considerable size, and stands on an eminence, from whence you have a delightful prospect of the course of the Nile, and a part of the Delta. It serves as a depot for the trade between Alexandria and Cairo. The boats of the latter city proceed no further than Rosetta, where they take on board goods brought by vessels from Alexandria, which never advance up the river. There are a considerable number of inhabitants in this city, and the French had built several brick houses for barracks. The people are courteous and civil; and they sell their bread, mutton, milk and fruits at a reasonable rate. The population of Egypt was formerly very great, but it is now almost confined to the banks of the Nile. The rest of the country is inhabited by other nations; so that nothing with certainty can be said about it. Having had few opportunities of observing the industry of the people, I have little to say concerning the state of the arts in Egypt. But there are some which afford articles of trade, and these it would be improper to overlook entirely.

Agriculture, the first and most important of all arts, is not in a very thriving condition here; at least if we compare the present produce of the lands with what a country of such natural fertility might be brought by cultivation to produce. But the local circumstances of this country are such, that, although in a seat of war; and the misery of the husbandman, they cannot extinguish the natural fertility of the soil. However ill cultivated, it still continues to compensate richly the little labour that is bestowed upon it, and to repay, with considerable profit, the expence laid out.

The soil of Lower Egypt seems to be of a sandy nature, that has been gradually deposited by the Nile. In a dry and torrid climate, and under an unclouded sky, such long seasons of drought, as Egypt experiences, would render it an arid and barren desert, were it not for the fertilizing waters of the Nile.

Some descriptions of Egypt would lead a person to think, that the Nile, when it swells, lays the whole province under water. The lands immediately adjoining to the banks of the river are indeed laid under water. But the natural inequality of the ground hinders it from overflowing the interior of the country. A great part of the lands would therefore remain barren, were not canals and reservoirs formed to receive water from the river, when at its greatest height, which is thus conveyed

every where through the fields, and reserved for watering them when occasion requires.

The best part, therefore, of Egyptian agriculture is the watering of their grounds. The water which the husbandman needs is often in a canal much beneath the level of the land which he means to water. The water he must, therefore, raise to an equality with the surface of the grounds, and distribute over them as it is wanted. The great art of their husbandry is thus reducing, to the having proper machines for raising the water, and enough of small canals, judiciously disposed, to distribute it.

Those machines, which I saw, are very simple: a wheel with buckets forms their whole mechanism. The largest are moved by oxen, or buffaloes; the smaller by the strength of the arm. These machines are coming now fast to improvement, as the French were very attentive in encouraging the arts, &c. while in Egypt.

Their instruments of husbandry are very bad. The plough, which they call marha, is of a very simple structure, is drawn by oxen, and is dragged over the ground in every direction, till the soil seems to be sufficiently broken and loosened for the reception of the seed. To smooth the ground they use a tree, or a thick plank, drawn by oxen yoked with ropes. The driver sits upon this machine: for the Egyptian peasants are not fond of walking, without you pay them for it.

Next morning we visited Rahmanich, where General Hutchinson and our army lay. On the day following we hired a guide, and procured some asses, and other necessaries for our journey, and left Rosetta. At this season it is very pleasant to walk up along the banks of the Nile: a number of villages are scattered along each side of the river. They are low, and built of unburnt bricks, but are intermixed with palm trees, and pigeon houses of a singular form, they present to the eye of a stranger an uncommon and pleasant prospect. Near some of these villages are seen large heaps of the ruins of ancient cities. The following day we viewed the fortifications of Rahmanich, which are strong and regular. Accounts arrived that our army, accompanied by the Turkish forces, had arrived in the neighbourhood of Cairo.

The troops had to contend with great obstacles. The heat of the weather, the difficulty of the navigation of the river, and the entire want of roads in the country. But these obstacles were encountered with the greatest patience, the most steady discipline, and most persevering courage. The French must have been fully aware of their inability to maintain Cairo, or to sustain a regular siege: for it appeared that they only waited till the allied troops had approached sufficiently near the city to invest it. Accordingly next morning the French, without risking a battle, sent out a flag of truce; negotiations were entered into, and on the 27th a conven-

tion for the evacuation of Egypt was signed with General Belliard.

In case the enemy had not surrendered, batteries were to have been immediately erected, on purpose to destroy a bridge of communication, which the French had over the Nile, and it was essential for us to have it in our possession. General Hutchinson then intended to cross the river, and join the army of the Grand Vizier, who was encamped near Cairo, and besiege the town, which was garrisoned by 4 or 5000 French. After a negotiation of several days, which was conducted by Brigadier General Hope, they agreed to surrender the town and forts on the following conditions :

Convention for the evacuation of Egypt, by the corps of French and auxiliary army, under the command of the general of division, Belliard ; conducted between the citizens Donzelot, general of brigade ; Morande, general of brigade, and Tareyne, chief of brigade, on the part of the general of division, Belliard ; and Brigadier General Hope, on the part of his excellency the commander in chief of the British army ; Osman Bey, on the part of his highness the Grand Vizier ; and Isaac Bey, on the part of his highness the Capitan Pacha.

The commissioners above named, having met in a place of conference between the two armies, and exchanged their respective powers, agreed to the following articles :

1st; The corps of the French army, by land and sea, and the auxiliary troops under the command of the general of division, Belliard, shall evacuate the city of Cairo, the citadel and forts of Boulac and Gizeh, and all the parts of Egypt which they at present occupy.

2^d, The corps of the French army and auxiliary troops, shall retire by land to Rosetta, following the left branch of the Nile, with their arms, baggage, field artillery, chests and ammunition, to be there embarked, and from thence transported to the French ports in the Mediterranean, with their arms, field artillery, chests and ammunition, baggage and effects, at the expence of the allied powers; the embarkation of the said corps of French and auxiliary troops shall be effected as soon as possible, not more, at farthest, than fifty days from the date of the ratification of the present convention. It is agreed farther, that the said corps shall be transported to the said ports, of the French continent, by the quickest and most direct route.

3^d, From the date of the signature and ratification of the present convention, hostilities shall cease on both sides. The fort Sulkowsky, and the gate of the pyramids of the town of Gizeh shall be given up to the allies. The line of advanced posts of both armies shall be determined by commissioners named for that purpose, and the strictest order shall be given that it shall not be passed, on purpose to avoid pri-

vate quarrels; and if any shall arise, they shall be terminated amicably.

4th, Twelve days after the ratification of the present convention, the city of Cairo, the citadel, the forts and town of Boulac, shall be evacuated by the French and auxiliary troops, who shall retire to Ibrahim Bey, the isle of Rhoda, and their dependencies, the fort Liguoi and Gizeh, from whence they shall depart as soon as possible, and at the latest in five days, for the place of embarkation. The generals of the British and Ottoman armies, engaging in consequence, to furnish at their expence, the French and auxiliary troops with means of transporting by water their baggage, provisions and effects, to the place of embarkation: all these conveyances by water, shall be rendered as quickly as possible to the French troops in Gizeh.

5th, The days of march, and the encampments of the French and auxiliary troops, shall be regulated by the general officers of the respective armies, or by officers of the general staff, named by both parties; but it is to be clearly understood by this article, that the days of march, and the encampments, shall be fixed by the generals of the combined armies. In consequence of this, the corps of the French and auxiliary troops shall be accompanied by British and Ottoman commissaries, charged to furnish them with the necessary provisions during the march and halting days.

6th, The baggage, ammunition, and other ef-

fects, carried by water, shall be escorted by detachments of French, and by armed boats of the allies.

7th, There shall be furnished to the French and auxiliary troops, and those employed in their service, military subsistence, accounting from their departure from Gizeh, to the time of embarkation, agreeable to the regulations of the French army; and from the day of their embarkation, to that of their disembarkation in France, agreeable to the maritime laws of Britain.

8th, There shall be furnished by the commanders of the British and Ottoman troops, the necessary ships, good and sufficient, to transport the French and auxiliary troops, and all the French, and others employed in their service, as well by land as sea, to the ports of France, in the Mediterranean. Every thing in this respect, as well as provisions, shall be regulated by commissioners appointed for that purpose by the general of division, Belliard, and by the commander in chief of the allied powers by land and sea. Immediately on the ratification of the present convention, commissioners shall go to Rosetta, or Aboukir, to prepare every requisite for the embarkation.

9th, The allied powers shall furnish four ships, and more, if possible, fitted for transporting horses and mules by water, and the necessary forage till their disembarkation.

10th, There shall be furnished to the corps of the French and auxiliary troops by the allied powers, an

escort of ships of war, sufficient to guarantee, and assure their return to France as soon as the French troops shall be embarked. The allied powers promise and engage that they shall in nowise be molested, from that time till their arrival on the continent of the French republic; and on the other hand, General Belliard, and the troops under his command, promise that they shall not commit any hostility during that time, against the fleet or country of his Britannic majesty, and the Sublime Porte, or their allies. The ships which shall transport, and guard the said corps of troops, or other French, shall not be detained on any other coast than that of France, except it shall be absolutely necessary. The commandants of the French, British, and Ottoman troops, reciprocally engage themselves as above, during the time the French troops shall remain in Egypt after the ratification of the present convention, until the time of their embarkation. The general of division, Belliard, promises on the part of his government, that the ships to carry and escort, shall not be detained in the ports of France, after the entire disembarkation of the troops, and that the captains shall have leave to purchase such provisions, and other necessaries, as they think necessary for their return. General Belliard further engages on the part of his government, that the said ships shall not be molested until their return into the ports of the allied powers; provided that they do not undertake or serve in any military operation.

11th, All the administrations, the members of the commission of arts and sciences, and in fine, every individual attached to the corps of the French army, shall enjoy the same advantages with the military. All the members of the said administration, and of the commission of arts and sciences. shall carry with them, not only all their papers which regard their mission, but also all their private papers, and every other thing concerning them.

12th, All the inhabitants of Egypt, of whatever nation they may be, who shall be willing to follow the French army, shall be at liberty to do so ; and after their departure their families shall not be molested, nor their goods confiscated.

13th, No inhabitant of Egypt, of whatsoever religion he may be, shall be molested, either in his person, or his goods, for the connections he may have had with the French, during their stay in Egypt, provided they conform to the laws of the country.

14th, The sick who cannot admit of being embarked, shall be sent into an hospital, where they shall be attended by a French medical officer till they shall be perfectly recovered, at which time they shall be embarked for France, on the same conditions with the other troops. The commandants of the allied powers, engage to furnish, upon proper application, every thing necessary for the hospital; but these advances shall be reimbursed by the French government.

15th, Immediately on the evacuation of the forts and towns designed in the present convention, there shall be named commissaries for receiving the artillery, ammunition, magazines, papers, archives, plans, and other public matters, which the French shall give up to the allied powers.

16th, There shall be furnished with all possible dispatch, by the commanders by sea, of the allied powers, a ship to conduct to Toulon, an officer and a commissary of war, to carry the present convention to the French government.

17th, All difficulties and disputes that may arise in putting in execution the present convention, shall be amicably terminated by the commissioners named on both sides.

18th, As soon as the present convention is ratified, the whole British and Ottoman prisoners who are at Cairo, shall be set at liberty; at the same time, the commandants and chiefs of the allied powers, shall set at liberty all the French prisoners whom they have in their respective camps.

19th, One officer of distinction of the British, one of his highnesses the Grand Vizier, and one of his highnesses the Capitan Pacha, shall be exchanged as hostages, against an equal number of the same rank of the French troops, for the purpose of guaranteeing the execution of the present treaty. As soon as the disembarkment of the French troops shall be effected in the ports of France, the hostages shall be reciprocally returned.

20th, The present convention shall be carried and communicated by a French officer to the general in chief (Menou,) at Alexandria; and he shall be at liberty to accept for the French and auxiliary troops, by land and sea, which he has with him in that place, provided such acceptance shall be notified to the general commanding the British troops before Alexandria, in ten days from the notification of such communication.

21st, The present convention shall be ratified by the commanders in chief of the respective corps of troops and armies, 24 hours from the signature.

Quadruplicate done in the field of conference, between the two armies, the 8th Messidor, year 9th of the French republic, at noon: or the 27th June, 1801: or the 16th of the month Jaffar, 1216.

(Signed) *Donzelot*, general of brigade.

Morande, general of brigade.

John Hope, brigadier general.

Osman Bey.

Isaac Bey.

I approve.

(Signed) *J.H. Hutchinson*, commander in chief.

I approve on the part of Admiral Lord Keith.

(Signed) *James Stevenson*, captain royal navy.

We approve of the articles of the present convention for the evacuation of Egypt, and restoring it to the Ottoman Porte.

(Signed) *Hadjey Jousef*, zia vizier.

Hassign Pacha, capitan derya.

I approve and ratify the present convention the 9th Messidor, 9th year of the French republic.

(Signed) *Belliard*, general of division.

But to return to our former narrative, the army under the command of General Coote consisted of the Guards, 25th, 1st and 2d battalions of the 54th, and 1st and 2d battalions of the 27th regiment : they landed upon the 18th without any opposition. Upon the 19th we took a battery from the French, and were reinforced with more troops from our camp. The 20th regiment made a charge upon a battery by moon light, and took it by the bayonet. On the 22d an attack was made, and the troops advanced close to the walls of Alexandria, where they remained till the 26th of August, when a flag of truce was displayed from the city, and on the 2d of September surrendered to the British, who took possession of all the forts and batteries that lay without the walls of Alexandria, with Pompey's pillar and the adjoining batteries.

The French troops were in a miserable condition from the want of food, having nothing to eat but a little rice and horse flesh, and their sick were dying every day for want of proper nourishment. After the capitulation they were allowed to buy fresh provisions, &c. and to sell gold and silver watches, rings and Arabian women. It is a custom in this country amongst the Arabs, when they bring up their daughters to the age of women, to sell them, by which

means parents, who have three or four daughters, acquire a good fortune!!

On the 13th of September Captain Wilson left our ship the *Trusty*, and took the command of the *Alexandria*, taken in that harbour. On the 14th Captain Guion took the command of our ship, and on the 27th came on board several officers and a part of third regiment of Guards for Malta. We remained in Aboukir Bay till the 1st of October, 1801, when we sailed under convoy of several ships of war.

Here let me observe, that the expedition is now brought to a crisis. Six tedious months had our army encountered disease, scorched with the rays of the sun, and the hot winds which blew from the deserts of Arabia, caused sore eyes, fluxes, &c. Had it not been the care and attention of our general, &c. to prevent epidemic diseases, thousands would have fallen victims to the plague, which made its appearance in our general hospital at Aboukir; but by a strict observance of military oeconomy to preserve health, every soldier and sailor were active in doing service to themselves and their companions.

On the 4th of October we parted with the convoy, and continued our course till the 6th, when we came close to Mount Ida in Candia. This island was once famous for its 100 cities. Here we were becalmed for sometime, the weather being very hot. It lies about 500 miles distant from Malta, and is very mountainous. We could discern the old east-

tle of Abdella II. the seventh caliph of the house of Abaffides, celebrated for the many victories he gained over the Greeks, by making himself master of the most part of this island. Remained here till the 9th. After sunset we were molested with heavy dews during the night, that fell on us like rain. The weather continued agreeable till the 13th, when we saw three strange sail, and immediately hoisted the private signal, which was answered. She proved to be the Thetis frigate with a convoy for Egypt. She had been cruizing in the Black Sea, and in the Gulph of Venice. Next morning we anchored in the harbour of Malta, all well except fore eyes.

On the 15th General Coote and suit went ashore, and about four o'clock it began to rain very hard, attended with thunder and lightning, which struck our top-gallant mast and split it, and descending downwards, did much damage to our main-mast, which was inspected by a carpenter, and again made fit for service. Here we disembarked the 3d regiment of Guards, and were employed for eight days in repairing the rigging, and in victualling and watering our ship. On the 30th we took on board the 25th regiment, and on the 2d of November we sailed from Malta, in company with the Ulysses of 44 guns, bound for Gibraltar, but as the current report was peace, we expected to proceed home to Britain.

On the 3d we came close to the island of Sicily, and once more had a view of the famous Mount

Etna. It is a good way from the sea. The smoke that constantly ascends from its summit in columns, collects into clouds, and exceeds every thing I ever saw. This day we spoke the Dictator and Inflexible with the Guards on board. Nothing of importance happened from the 5th to the 17th, when we spoke a brig from New York bound to Malta with sugar, who informed us that peace was proclaimed between France and Britain.

On the 17th we came in sight of Gibraltar, but could not get into the harbour, owing to contrary winds, till next day. We immediately disembarked the 25th regiment for garrison duty. Found lying here several ships of war. Arrived the Ajax from Malta, and sailed the Dover with the 89th regiment, and Dictator and Inflexible with the Guards, for England.

On the 21st the Spaniards opened their batteries all along the coast, and fired a salute, which was returned from the garrison. It seems this was a festival amongst the Spaniards, on account of the ports being opened for a free trade between the two kingdoms. Remained here until the 27th waiting for orders, when we embarked part of the 2d regiment of Guards, commanded by the Earl of Cork, 27 of which died on their passage from Aboukir to Malta.

I have thus far proceeded on our voyage homeward, after a long and tedious expedition; but peace, that blessed mercy, once more begins to

smile over the face of nature, and causes the heart of many a man to exult, who have for a series of years bypast been exposed to war and disease—absent from their relations and families, but now have a prospect of being restored to their arms.

On the 30th of November, being St. Andrew's day, the governor of Gibraltar, and all the captains of the fleet, dined on board the Cæsar. Nothing worthy of observation occurred till the 9th of December, the weather fair and pleasant, and the wind blowing fair, the admiral hoisted a signal to unmoor, which was immediately obeyed by all the ships, and the whole fleet passed Gibraltar into the Atlantic ocean. *

Now, reader, let me make a pause. We are now out of the Mediterranean, and entered into the Atlantic ocean. We expect soon to arrive at our native shore. Our lives have hitherto been preserved, while a great number of our dear countrymen are left behind, and are numbered amongst the dead! We hope to see our friends who despaired of ever seeing us. May we be thankful to God who has preserved us, and brought us out of Egypt,

* The wind at this time of the year in the Mediterranean, for upwards of six or seven months, constantly blows from the west, and at times quite calm; and in a minute it begins to blow a perfect hurricane. During our voyage from Valletta to Gibraltar I observed that the wind blew from the east for two or three days, which was rather uncommon.

a country that has been stained with war, blood and rapine, for a number of centuries past!

On the 7th we lost sight of the land, with a fine breeze, and continued our voyage, under a press of sail, until the 24th, when we arrived safe at Spithead. Here we performed quarantine until the 30th of December, when we hauled down the yellow flag, and disembarked the Coldstream Guards.

Here ends my journal, which I expect will be found both useful and entertaining to my countrymen, when I am laid in the dust, and keep in memory the famous Egyptian expedition, when we expelled the French out of that country, which disconcerted Bonaparte's despotic and ambitious plans, and was the means of bringing about a general peace in Europe.

A P P E N D I X.

Containing a short Account of several Towns in Egypt, &c. which the British Army visited.

RHODES.

THE city of Rhodes still exhibits several things to remind the traveller, that it was once inhabited by the knights of the order of St. John, who upon their expulsion from thence by the Turks, were fixed at Malta. It contains a number of noble old

buildings, some of which are decorated with the armorial bearings of the most ancient families in Europe. But the palace of the grand master of the order is now falling into ruins. The Turks neglect the fortifications, although they might know their importance, from having besieged the island so long before they could make themselves masters of it. But notwithstanding this neglect, Rhodes is one of the best fortified places in the Ottoman empire, and the Turks think it impregnable.

There are a great many Greeks in the island of Rhodes, but they are not allowed to live in the city: they have a bishop who lives in a village near the city, but they are much insulted by their conquerors the Turks.

ALEXANDRIA.

Alexandria, or Scandria as the Turks and Arabs call it, is situate upon a narrow isthmus, between a peninsula and the walls of the ancient city, and dividing the two harbours. The ground on which the modern city stands seems to have arisen out of the waters. Although long since divested of its ancient splendor, yet the remains of the magnificent buildings which it once possessed—palaces, temples, and mosques, with a plentiful intermixture of palm trees—give this city an aspect of beauty and dignity when viewed from the harbour.

There still exists one noble remain in the city, which could neither be broken nor carried away:

the obelisk of Cleopatra, a single piece of red granite; part of it is sunk into the earth, yet it rises above ground to the height of 60 feet. About the distance of half a league from the new city stands the famous pillar of Pompey. Its preservation is owing to its bulk. The column measures 89 feet, exclusive of the base, which is 5 feet high, and consists of three blocks of red granite. There are many subterranean apartments cut in the rock to be seen in the neighbourhood of this city, which are supposed to have been for tombs, or granaries. The finest building in this city is a mosque, which in the time of the Greek empire was a church dedicated to St. Athanasius. It is very large, and ornamented with noble columns. A great many Greek manuscripts are still said to be preserved in it, but no Christian dare examine any thing in a mosque. The Copts have a church here dedicated to St. Mark, in which they show the tomb of that evangelist.

The trade of Alexandria is very trifling, but as most of the articles of traffic which are imported into Egypt pass by Alexandria, the customs afford a considerable sum to the sultan annually. The Arabic is the ordinary language of Egypt; but Europeans, unskilled in Arabic, speak Italian, which is still not a little used in this country. Several tribes of wandering Arabs are continually roaming through Lower Egypt, who rob and pillage whenever an opportunity offers, especially strangers, and are a great pest to the country.

GRAND CAIRO

Is a very large city, but not so populous as cities of the same extent in Europe. The houses are not so high as generally they are in European towns; many of them not exceeding one storey, built with bricks dried in the sun. The streets are very narrow, so that being continually crowded, they will naturally occasion a stranger to think the city more populous than it really is. Here is the pretended palace of Joseph. It is a large building. It still retains some precious remains of its ancient magnificence: the walls are adorned with beautiful figures of Mosaic work, composed of mother of pearl, precious stones and coloured glass. In some places the names of most of the ancient monarchs of Egypt are engraven. There are many mosques in this city and suburbs, but several of them in ruins, and are still conspicuous for beauty and magnificence. The Greeks have only two churches in Cairo, and the Arminians one, as they are not numerous here.

All the streets have gates which are shut at night; but a porter waits to open to those who can give satisfactory reasons for passing from one street to another, and approach with a light in their hand. The man for a small acknowledgement opens the gate, but stops every suspected person. This regulation prevents nocturnal assemblies, and tumults among the people. To support this establishment there is a chamber near each gate, occupied by a guard of Janizaries, who protect the porter by night,

and during the day maintain order. These Janizaries are not changed, but continue in that lucrative office while their conduct continues to give satisfaction.

ON EGYPT IN GENERAL.

Wood being scarce in Egypt, the inhabitants are obliged to burn the dung of their domestic animals. The dung of camels and asses is chiefly used, because these two species are the most numerous. Little girls go about gathering it. They mix it with cut straw, and make it up in large cakes, which they dry in the sun, after the manner our peats are dried in Scotland. From the foot of this fuel, which is very rich in salts, is manufactured sal ammoniac, which is well known in Europe.

In Egypt they also have furnaces for hatching chickens. These furnaces are only used in summer. The eggs are carried by different persons, who pay so much a hundred to a person who undertakes the management of hatching them. The owners mark their eggs, and the hatcher is obliged to return those that misgive in hatching. The eggs are laid upon straw, the furnace heated to a certain degree, and are turned several times by night, as well as by day: but it is said that these chickens sell very low, and are very puny, for which cause this mode of hatching is very much gone into disuse.

Although Egypt has declined from its ancient grandeur, yet it still affords many productions which

are capital articles in commerce. It is so situated, that it has communication by the Red Sea with Arabia, Persia, and the Indies; by the Nile upon one side, with Nubia and Abyssinia; and on the other, with Europe, Barbary, Syria, and all the provinces in the Turkish empire. The principal productions of Egypt are raw buffaloe hides, camels, cows and oxen; rice, senna, saffron, lint, linen cloth, sal ammoniac, some cotton and sugar, but it is so ill prepared that American sugar is preferable. These articles are sold in exchange for several other articles which they need, such as cloth, paper, coffee, gum-arabic, &c. The African caravans bring them slaves, ivory, ostrich feathers, tamarinds and gold dust. In exchange they take pearls, coral, arms, broad cloth, &c.

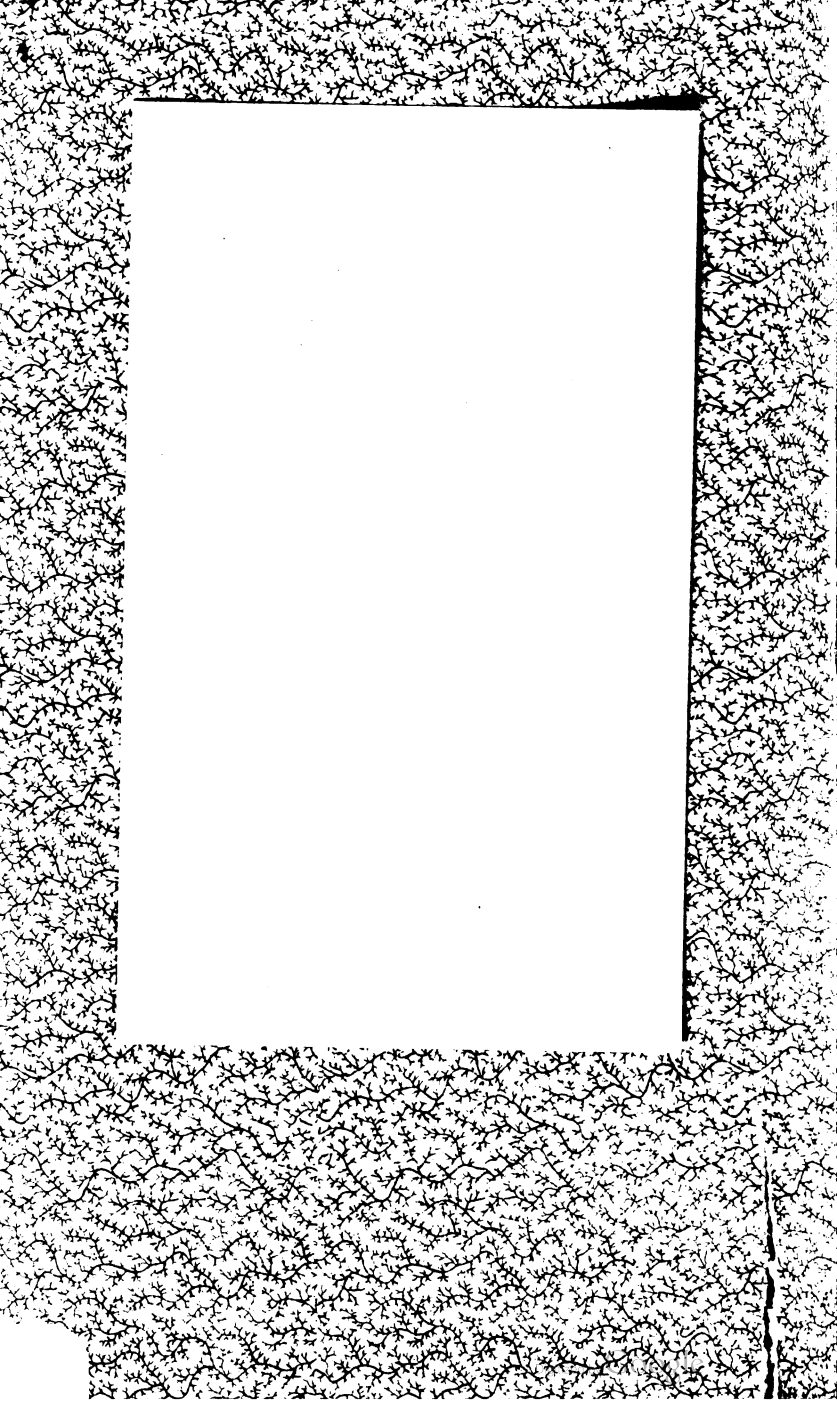
The inhabitants on the banks of the Nile are very dexterous in the art of swimming, which they frequently exercise in stealing from the boats, if not with open force, yet with a degree of address and audacity worthy of the most noted pickpockets. These swimmers, and robbers who go in boats, render the navigation on the river Nile not only disagreeable, but very dangerous. As an instance of the dexterity of these robbers at swimming, Nieubuhr in his travels gives us one instance which was related to him by a Turk. "Some servants of a pacha newly arrived, caught one of these thieves in the very act, seized him, and brought him before the pacha. He threatened him with immediate

death; but the rogue asked leave to exhibit some of his tricks; saying, 'That he hoped his dexterity might procure his pardon.' He obtained leave. Then collecting several effects in the tent, he wrapped them up coolly, in the mode which the Egyptians do when they pass a river. After playing some time with his parcel, he put it on his head, threw himself into the river, and before the Turks were so far recovered from their surprise, as to level their musquets at him, he was safe on the opposite bank of the Nile.

Upon the whole, it appears travellers by water in Egypt are pestered with robbers, who either attack them in boats, or by swimming; and those who travel by land are frequently robbed by the wandering Arabs.

T H E E N D .

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